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General and complete disarmament: promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation; towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: accelerating the implementation of nuclear disarmament commitments; establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

Letter dated 8 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to forward herewith the text of the statement of the Halk Maslahaty (the People's Council) of Turkmenistan on support of the international initiatives to combat proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, adopted on 24 October 2005 (see annex).

I would appreciate it if you could circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 97, 97 (h), 97 (l) and 97 (bb).

(*Signed*) Aksoltan **Ataeva**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 8 November 2005 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Statement of the Halk Maslahaty (People's Council) of Turkmenistan on support for the initiatives of international organizations to combat proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

We, the participants in the sixteenth session of the People's Council of Turkmenistan,

- Acknowledging the high authority of the foreign policy of the first and permanent President of Turkmenistan, Saparmurat Niyazov, in promoting international peace, stability and security, and taking as a foundation Turkmenistan's status of permanent neutrality, as recognized and supported by the United Nations;

- Recognizing the significance of Turkmenistan's participation in the collective efforts of the international community to prevent threats to mankind, and to prohibit the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, which constitutes one of those threats;

- Emphasizing that Turkmenistan has adhered firmly and rigorously to its obligations not to possess, produce or proliferate nuclear, chemical, bacteriological or other weapons of mass destruction, not to facilitate the development of new forms of weapons of mass destruction or of new technologies for their production and, in that connection, emphasizing that it is a signatory to all the basic international legal instruments which provide guarantees for the establishment of, and concrete action towards, a collective security system;

- Drawing attention to the need to establish an effective international legal mechanism for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction;

- Attaching great significance to the partnership between Turkmenistan and other States and international organizations in ensuring guaranteed peace and security,

Hereby adopt the following statement of the People's Council of Turkmenistan:

1. Turkmenistan fully supports international efforts to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related technologies. Accordingly, Turkmenistan is taking, and will continue to take, consistent practical action to establish an effective international legal mechanism for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

2. Taking account of the fact that the illicit transport of weapons of mass destruction is a threat to the entire world, Turkmenistan confirms its endeavour to cooperate with other countries and international organizations to counter that threat.

Turkmenistan supports the initiatives of international organizations to counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

3. Turkmenistan prohibits the use of its sovereign airspace for transportation by air of weapons of mass destruction and related materials, missiles and missile technologies.

In that connection, Turkmenistan denies any aircraft suspected of illicitly transporting weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related technologies the right to overfly its territory.

4. Turkmenistan will take additional steps to implement international initiatives for the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and will strengthen its legal basis for the non-proliferation of such weapons.

Adopted by the participants in the sixteenth session of the People's Council of Turkmenistan.

The Chairman of the People's Council of Turkmenistan
Saparmurat Niyazov, President of Turkmenistan

Ashgabat, 24 October 2005